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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,127	10/16/2001	Steven Curtis Zicker	6493-02-HL	3786

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COLGATE-PALMOLIVE COMPANY
909 RIVER ROAD
PISCATAWAY, NJ 08855

EXAMINER	
BAEK, BONG-SOOK	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1614	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/978,127	ZICKER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	BONG-SOOK BAEK	1614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *28 April 2010*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *39 and 44-47* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *39 and 44-47* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5/17/2010*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office Action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.114. Applicant's submission filed April 28, 2010 has been received and entered into the present application. Claims 39 and 44-47 are pending and are herein examined on the merits.

Applicants' arguments, filed on April 28, 2010, have been fully considered but they are moot in view of new ground of rejections. Rejections and/or objections not reiterated from previous office actions are hereby withdrawn. The following rejections and/or objections are either reiterated or newly applied. They constitute the complete set presently being applied to the instant application.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement filed on 5/17/2010 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, since copies of non-patent literature (NPL) documents listed therein were not provided. Those NPL documents have not been considered.

Claim objections

Claim 46 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form.

The mixture of antioxidants recited in claim 39 comprises from 25 to 600 ppm alpha lipoic acid, however claim 46 recites "alpha lipoic acid is fed to the canine in at least 25 ppm". Since there is no upper limit, the concentration range of alpha lipoic acid in claim 46 is broader than that of claim 39, the scope of the claim 46 is broader than the claim 39 and does not further limit the claim 39 in terms of the concentration range of alpha-lipoic acid.

35 USC § 112, 1st paragraph

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 39 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. All the dependent claims included.

Claim 39 is amended to recite "a composition comprising: (i) a mixture of antioxidants at levels sufficient to accomplish the said inhibiting or increasing, the mixture of antioxidants comprising at least about 100 ppm Vitamin E, at least about 50 ppm Vitamin C, and from 25 to 600 ppm alpha lipoic acid; (ii) a source of protein; and (iii) a source of fiber". However, the

original disclosure provides no support for the presence of a source of protein and a source of fiber in a composition, which is in use for the claimed method. Therefore, it is considered as new matter.

New matter includes not only the addition of wholly unsupported subject matter, but may also include adding specific percentages or compounds after a broader original disclosure, or even the omission of a step from a method. See MPEP § 608.04 to § 608.04(c).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112 second paragraph

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 44-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 44 recites "the aged companion pet is a canine and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid and L-carnitine" in line 2. There is a lack of antecedent basis for "L-carnitine" in the claim because the mixture recited claim 1 does include "L-carnitine". Also, it is unclear whether the aged companion pet is fed a mixture of the Vitamin E, Vitamin C, alpha lipoic acid and L-carnitine without a source of protein and a source of fiber.

For the examination purpose, it is interpreted as follows: "the aged companion pet is a canine and the mixture of antioxidants further comprises L-carnitine".

Claim 45 recites "the aged companion pet is a feline and is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, and L-carnitine" in line 2. There is a lack of antecedent basis for "L-carnitine" in the

claim because the mixture recited claim 1 does include "L-carnitine". Also, it is unclear whether the aged companion pet is fed a mixture of Vitamin E, Vitamin C, and L-carnitine without alpha lipoic acid, a source of protein and a source of fiber.

For the examination purpose, it is interpreted as follows: "the aged companion pet is a feline and the mixture of antioxidants further comprises L-carnitine".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 39 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US patent 6,479,069.

US patent 6,479,069 teaches the use of a nutritional composition comprising alpha-lipoic acid, L-carnitine, vitamins such as vitamin E and vitamin C for fighting age-related declines in mitochondrial function which result in less energy and other signs of aging (abstract and column 9, line 30- column 10, line 9). It further teaches that the composition is intended for improving the diet of not only human but also pets such as dogs (canine) and cats (feline) (column 4, lines 61-column 5, line 2). In addition, it teaches that both carnitine and lipoic acid contribute to restoration of age-related mitochondria function and metabolic activity in older individuals and

this contributes to improvements in energy, general health, mental acuity (sharpness and intelligence), immune system function, and skin and hair appearance and muscle mass (column 6, lines 10-15). It further teaches that additional nutrients are important in older individuals, including calcium, vitamin D, Vitamins B12, folic acid, B6, niacin, C or E, iron and zinc and many of these nutrients have been found to be deficient in the diets of elders and should be appropriately supplemented in nutritional beverages and bars (column 8, lines 26-31). The teaching that carnitine and lipoic acid contribute to restoration of age-related mitochondria function and metabolic activity in older individuals and this contributes to improvements in mental acuity (sharpness and intelligence) reads on the recitation, "inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability". Alternatively, the reference teaches the use of the same composition as the instant invention for fighting age-related declines in mitochondrial function which result in less energy and other signs of aging in companion pets such as dogs and cats, thus, said "inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability" necessarily occurs when the composition of the reference is fed to the animals. The discovery of a previously unappreciated property of a prior art composition, or of a scientific explanation for the prior art's functioning, does not render the old composition patentably new to the discoverer. See Atlas Powder Co. v. Ireco Inc., 190 F.3d 1342, 1347, 51 USPQ2d 1943, 1947 (Fed. Cir. 1999). Thus the claiming of a new use, new function or unknown property which is inherently present in the prior art does not necessarily make the claim patentable. *In re Best*, 562 F.2d 1252, 1254, 195 USPQ 430, 433 (CCPA 1977).

US patent 6,479,069 discloses that preferably, the amount of carnitine in the composition is about 25 mg to about 3,000 mg (or about 0.025 g to about 3 g) and most preferably, the

amount of carnitine in the composition is at least about 50 mg (column 6, lines 39-47). It further discloses the amount of lipoic acid in the composition is about 25 mg to about 1,500 mg (or about 0.025 g to about 1.5 g) and most preferably, the amount of lipoic acid in the composition is at least about 50 mg (column 7, lines 1-9). In addition, it discloses a preferred example composition comprising 11 g protein, 3g nutritional fiber, 5 IU vitamin E, 30 mg vitamin C (about 150 ppm), at least 0.12 g of lipoic acid (about 600 ppm) and at least 0.12 g of L-carnitine (about 600 ppm) for active elders (column 9, line 30- column 10, line 9), wherein the disclosed amount of each ingredient reasonably encompasses the claimed range. See *Conopco Inc. v. May Department Store Co.* 24 USPQ2d 1721 (Use of word "about" in claim is appropriate if claim contains range of components with no absolute boundaries; claim for skin care lotion which describes it as aqueous cosmetic emulsion containing isoparaffin and DEA-cetyl phosphate in ratios of "about" 40:1 to "about" 1:1 cannot be interpreted as imposing strict limitation, since imposition of such strict limitation would constitute improper use of exemplary embodiment, namely, ratio of 40:1; thus, accused skin care lotions which have ratios of isoparaffin to DEA-cetyl phosphate of 162.9:1, 40:1, and 20:1, literally infringe.). *See Amgen, Inc. v. Chugai Pharmaceutical Co.,* 927 F.2d 1200, 1217-18 [18 USPQ2d 1016] (Fed.Cir. 1991), *petition for cert. filed* (July 1, 1991) (No. 91-13). In *Amgen,* the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit stated that use of the word "about" in a claim is only limited to the extent that prior art exists, that is, prior art which would limit broad interpretation of the claim. *Id.* at 1218.

In the alternative, the following rejection under *35 USC §* 103 is applied in the case the concentration range of each ingredient disclosed in the reference would not encompass the claimed range.

Claim Rejection(s)—35 USC 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 39 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent 6,479,069 in view of US Patent 6,232,346.

US patent 6,479,069 teaches the use of a nutritional composition comprising alpha-lipoic acid, L-carnitine, vitamins such as vitamin E and vitamin C for fighting age-related declines in mitochondrial function which result in less energy and other signs of aging (abstract and column 9, line 30- column 10, line 9). It further teaches that the composition is intended for improving the diet of not only human but also pets such as dogs (canine) and cats (feline) (column 4, lines 61-column 5, line 2). In addition, it teaches that both carnitine and lipoic acid contribute to

restoration of age-related mitochondria function and metabolic activity in older individuals and this contributes to improvements in energy, general health, mental acuity (sharpness and intelligence), immune system function, and skin and hair appearance and muscle mass (column 6, lines 10-15). It further teaches that additional nutrients are important in older individuals, including calcium, vitamin D, Vitamins B12, folic acid, B6, niacin, C or E, iron and zinc and many of these nutrients have been found to be deficient in the diets of elders and should be appropriately supplemented in nutritional beverages and bars (column 8, lines 26-31). It further discloses that preferably, the amount of carnitine in the composition is about 25 mg to about 3,000 mg (or about 0.025 g to about 3 g) and most preferably, the amount of carnitine in the composition is at least about 50 mg (column 6, lines 39-47). The teaching that carnitine and lipoic acid contribute to restoration of age-related mitochondria function and metabolic activity in older individuals and this contributes to improvements in mental acuity (sharpness and intelligence) reads on the recitation, "inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability". Alternatively, the reference teaches the use of the same composition as the instant invention for fighting age-related declines in mitochondrial function which result in less energy and other signs of aging in companion pets such as dogs and cats, thus, said "inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability" necessarily occurs when the composition of the reference is fed to the animals.

US patent 6,479,069 further discloses the amount of lipoic acid in the composition is about 25 mg to about 1,500 mg (or about 0.025 g to about 1.5 g) and most preferably, the amount of lipoic acid in the composition is at least about 50 mg (column 7, lines 1-9). In addition, it discloses a preferred example composition comprising 11 g protein, 3g nutritional fiber, 5 IU

vitamin E, 30 mg vitamin C (about 150 ppm), at least 0.12 g of lipoic acid (about 600 ppm) and at least 0.12 g of L-carnitine (about 600 ppm) for active elders (column 9, line 30- column 10, line 9).

US patent 6,232,346 teaches a method of medical treatment of a disease, disorder or abnormal physical state in a mammal such as functional deterioration associated with ageing, wherein the method comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a nutritional supplement comprising L-carnitine, coenzyme Q10 (ubiquinone) and taurine in combination with vitamin E, vitamin C, cysteine, selenium, thiamine, and creatine (abstract, example 1, and claim 1). It further teaches that the mammal is selected from the group consisting of a human, a dog (canine), a cat (feline), and horse (claim 7). In addition, it disclosed a liquid supplement containing about: 2.7 grams of taurine, 2.7 grams of carnitine (11000 ppm), 135 mg coenzyme Q10 plus antioxidant vitamins such as 400 IU vitamin E (800 ppm) and 250 mg vitamin C (1000 ppm) and 1.75 grams of creatine per 250 milliliters (column 17 lines 24-28).

Since the references in combination suggest the dosage ranges of alpha-lipoic acid, L-carnitine, vitamin E and vitamin C, which are used in nutritional formulations for the treatment of age-related functional deterioration and oxidative stress, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the effective amount of each ingredient taught by the prior art such that the dosage amount of each ingredient is effective to inhibit oxidative stress or symptoms associated with aging in animals, thereby improving mental acuity and inhibiting age-related memory loss. In addition, it is well-established that merely selecting proportions and ranges is not patentable absent a showing of criticality. *In re Becket*, 33 USPQ 33; *In re Russell*, 169 USPQ 426. “[W]here the general

conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation." *In re Aller*, 220 F.2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233, 235 (CCPA 1955); see also Peterson, 315 F.3d at 1330, 65 USPQ2d at 1382 ("The normal desire of scientists or artisans to improve upon what is already generally known provides the motivation to determine where in a disclosed set of percentage ranges is the optimum combination of percentages.")

Claims 39 and 44-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 6,232,346 in view of Hagen *et al.* (FASEB J, 13:411-418, Feb. 1999), as evidenced by US Patent 6,479,069.

US Patent 6,232,346 teaches a method of medical treatment of a disease, disorder or abnormal physical state in a mammal such as functional deterioration associated with ageing, wherein the method comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of a nutritional supplement comprising L-carnitine, coenzyme Q10 (ubiquinone) and taurine in combination with vitamin E, vitamin C, cysteine, selenium, thiamine, and creatine (abstract, example 1, and claim 1). It further teaches that the mammal is selected from the group consisting of a human, a dog (canine), a cat (feline), and horse (claim 7). In addition, it disclosed a liquid supplement containing about: 2.7 grams of taurine, 2.7 grams of carnitine (11000 ppm), 135 mg coenzyme Q10 plus antioxidant vitamins such as 400 IU vitamin E (800 ppm) and 250 mg vitamin C (1000 ppm) and 1.75 grams of creatine per 250 milliliters (column 17 lines 24-28). In addition, it discloses the specific embodiments of a nutritional supplement comprising protein, 1.5 g L-carnitine, 269 mg vitamin E, 125 mg vitamin C (fig 6a and 6b).

The reference does not specifically define that treating functional deterioration associated with ageing encompasses "inhibiting the loss of learning ability or increasing the learning ability", however it would be expected outcomes since the reference teaches the same method step comprising administering the same composition to the same patient population as the instant claim. It is noted that products of identical chemical composition cannot have mutually exclusive properties. A chemical composition and its properties are inseparable. Therefore, if the prior art teaches the identical chemical structure, the properties applicant discloses and/or claims are necessarily present. *In re Spada*, 911 F.2d 705, 709, 15 USPQ2d 1655, 1658 (Fed. Cir. 1990). When the claimed and prior art products are identical or substantially identical in structure or composition, a prima facie case of either anticipation or obviousness has been established. *In re Best*, 562 F.2d 1252, 1255, 195 USPQ 430, 433 (CCPA 1977).

The reference differs from the instant claims insofar as it does not specifically teach a source of fiber, α-lipoic acid and the dosage amount of α-lipoic acid.

Hagen *et al.* disclose feeding α-lipoic acid (0.5 % w/w) to old rats for 2 weeks restores mitochondrial function, lowers oxidants to the level of a young rats and increase ambulatory activity (abstract). It further teaches that lipoic acid supplementation improves indices of metabolic activity as well as lowers oxidative stress and damage evident in aging (abstract).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the method of US Patent 6,232,346 to specifically administer to the aged dog or cat protein, L-carnitine and vitamin E, C in combination with α-lipoic acid because one of ordinary skill in the art would reasonably expect the combination of these anti-oxidant compounds to inhibit oxidative stress associated with aging. Since L-carnitine,

Vitamin E, C, and α- lipoic acid are taught to be effective for improving age-related functional deterioration and lowing oxidative stress, one of ordinary skill in the art would reasonably expect the combination of those anti-oxidants not only to inhibit oxidative stress associated with aging but also to counteract age-related loss of learning ability and improve mental acuity in the aged cats and dogs. It would have been prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine two compositions each of which is taught by the prior art to be useful for the same purpose in order to form a third composition to be used for the very same purpose…..The idea of combining them flow logically from their having been individually taught in the prior art." See *In re Kerkhoven*, 626 F. 2d 846, 850, 205 USPQ 1069, 1072 (CCPA 1980)

With regard to the claimed dosage amounts, since US Patent 6,232,346 and Hagen *et al.* disclosed effective amounts, i.e. dosage amounts, are necessary to the treatment of age-related functional deterioration and oxidative stress, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further modify the effective amounts taught by US Patent 6,232,346 and Hagen *et al.* such that the dosage amounts of the carnitine, vitamin E, vitamin C and alpha-lipoic acid are effective to inhibit oxidative stress or symptoms associated with aging in animals, thereby improving mental acuity and inhibiting age-related memory loss. In addition, it is well-established that merely selecting proportions and ranges is not patentable absent a showing of criticality. *In re Becket*, 33 USPQ 33; *In re Russell*, 169 USPQ 426. "[W]here the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, it is not inventive to discover the optimum or workable ranges by routine experimentation." *In re Aller*, 220 F.2d 454, 456, 105 USPQ 233, 235 (CCPA 1955); see also Peterson, 315 F.3d at 1330, 65 USPQ2d at

1382 ("The normal desire of scientists or artisans to improve upon what is already generally known provides the motivation to determine where in a disclosed set of percentage ranges is the optimum combination of percentages.")

With regard to "a source of fiber", it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further add a source of fiber to the composition of US Patent 6,232,346 since it is known to be included in nutritional formulations for aged subjects as evidenced by US Patent 6,479,069, which discloses a commercially available nutritional formulation including dietary fiber along with alpha-lipoic acid, L-carnitine, vitamin E and vitamin C (column 9, line 30-column 10, line 10). The skilled artisan would have reasonably expected that a source of fiber would provide additional nutritional benefit for aged animals.

Conclusion

No claims are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BONG-SOOK BAEK whose telephone number is 571-270-5863. The examiner can normally be reached 9:00-7:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin Marschel can be reached on 571-272-071818. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brian-Yong S Kwon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1614
Bbs

BONG-SOOK BAEK
Examiner, Art Unit 1614